

Federal Communications Commission Office of Native Affairs and Policy

FCC Tribal Workshop

Hard Rock Hotel and Casino Tulsa 777 W. Cherokee Street, Catoosa, OK 74015 **August 9-10, 2022**



Hosted by the Cherokee Nation

August 9, 2022

9:00 am Doors Open – Registration

9:15 am - 9:25 am Cherokee Nation Welcome
Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin, Jr.

9:25 am – 9:30 am FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel Welcome Video

9:30 am – 9:35 am Welcome

Alejandro Roark, Chief, FCC Consumer and Governmental Affairs

Bureau

9:35 am – 9:45 am Overview of Agenda and Logistics

Sayuri Rajapakse, Acting Chief, Office of Native Affairs and Policy

9:45 am – 10:30 am Introduction to the Federal Communications Commission

Barbara Esbin, Deputy Chief, FCC Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau

This session introduces the FCC and discusses its relevance to Tribal Nations. It provides background on how the Commission operates, including how the FCC handles licensing, rulemaking, subsidies, and public comment in creating communications programs and policy.

10:30 am – 11:15 am Filing Comments at the FCC

Barbara Esbin

Lloyd Collier and Derik Goatson, Legal Advisors,

Office of Native Affairs and Policy

This session provides an overview on why Tribes should file comments in open proceedings where the FCC considers policies and rules, the different types of filings involved, the timing and substance of such filings, and the mechanics of how to submit comments.

11:15 am - 11:30 am

Break

11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Introduction to the Universal Service Fund

Allison Baker, Economic and Policy Advisor, Wireline Competition Bureau

Jaymie Gustafson, Director of Communications, Universal Service Administrative Company

This session provides an overview of the FCC's Universal Service Fund and its four subsidy programs: (1) the High Cost program; (2) the Schools and Libraries program, also known as E-Rate; (3) the Low-Income program, also known as Lifeline and Link Up; and (4) the Rural Health Care Program.

12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Lunch Break

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

E-Rate Panel

Allison Baker

Jaymie Gustafson

This session will share information about federal support available for Tribal libraries through the E-Rate program. The E-Rate program provides discounts of up to 90% to qualifying schools and libraries for broadband equipment and services and the FCC has recently taken action to make it easier for Tribal libraries to obtain funding. The session will highlight recent changes to the rules that will benefit Tribal libraries and provide guidance on the E-Rate application process.

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Affordable Connectivity Program Panel

Jamile Kadre, Attorney-Advisor, Affordable Connectivity Program, Wireline Competition Bureau

Eduard Bartholme, Deputy Bureau Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau

This session will provide an overview of the ACP, including the benefit, who is eligible, how households can apply, and also provide an overview of a toolkit that the FCC has developed to assist partners and others directly serving their communities.

4:00 pm - 4:15 pm

Break

4:15 pm - 5:00 pm

Preventing Digital Discrimination

D'wana Terry, Special Advisor to Chairwoman Rosenworcel Alejandro Roark

Task Force to Prevent Digital Discrimination

The FCC has formed a Task Force to Prevent Digital

Discrimination to create rules and policies to combat digital discrimination and to promote equal access to broadband across the country. The session will allow participants to offer input on any unique considerations that should be taken into account regarding members of Tribal Nations.

5:00 pm

Conclusion of Day One

August 10, 2022

9:00 am

Doors open - Registration

9:15 am - 10:15 am

Broadband Data Collection

Eduard Bartholme

This session will review the Broadband Data Collection (BDC) system for Tribal leaders, Tribal providers and other Tribal filers who will submit broadband availability data. This presentation will familiarize filers with how to navigate the BDC system, how to submit availability data, and how to access and work with the production Fabric, including how to review the Fabric to prepare for submitting challenges to provider availability data.

10:15 am - 11:15 am

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Broadband Programs

Margaret Gutierrez, Broadband Program Specialist, Team Lead, Tribal Broadband Connectivity and Nation-to-Nation Coordination Division

This session will cover Tribal inclusion for NTIA Programs in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

11:15 am – 11:30 am

Break

11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Department of Agriculture (USDA) Funding Opportunities

Lee Martin, General Field Representative/Oklahoma Telecommunications Program/Rural Utilities Service,

Rural Development

Representatives from the USDA Rural Utilities Service will share information about USDA programs that support high-speed

internet service and infrastructure in rural areas and their upcoming application windows.

12:30 pm – 12:55 pm Open Discussion with FCC staff

This session provides an opportunity for Tribal members and appointed representatives of Tribal Nations to discuss, in an open forum, with FCC staff, any matters of interest to Workshop attendees in a collaborative and constructive environment.

12:55 pm – 1:00 pm Closing Remarks

Sayuri Rajapakse